GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
LABOUR
LOK SABHA

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:36
ANSWERED ON:15.07.2002
INTER STATE MIGRANT WORKERS
AJAY CHAKRABORTY

Will the Minister of LABOUR be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government are aware of the problems of the Inter-State migrant workers who are paid less than the minimum wages and made to work under hazardous conditions;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether the Inter-State Migrant Workers Act, 1979 is not being enforced in any State due to the inherent lacuna in the Act; and

(d) if so, the steps taken by the Government to make it more effective and enforcible one?

Answer

MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF LABOUR (SHRI ASHOK PRADHAN)

(a) & (b): The Government is aware of the problems of the inter-state migrant workers. In order to safeguard the interest of Inter-State Migrant Workers, the Governmenthas enacted Inter State Migrant Workmen (Regulation of Employment andConditions of Service) Act, 1979. The Act envisages payment of equal wages to migrant and local workers for same or similar kind of work.

(c) & (d): The responsibility for enforcement of the provisions of the Inter-State Migrant Workmen Act, 1979 lies both with the Central and State Governments in their respective spheres. As most of the workers move on their own, there is difficulty in effective enforcement of the Act. To enforce the provisions of the Act, the recipient States of the migrant workmen have been advised to co-operate with the officers of the States who send the migrant workmen whenever any enquiry is conducted for effective enforcement of the provisions of the Act.